

Message Text

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14

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-13 OMB-01 DRC-01 /120 W

----- 034792

R 220230Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9819

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

CINCPAC

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, US, TW

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

SUBJECT: ROC PRESS ADOPTS CAUTIOUS STANCE ON
KISSINGER APPOINTMENT

REF: TAIPEI 5632

1. LOCAL PRESS HAS ADOPTED A CAUTIOUS STANCE TOWARD
SECRETARY KISSINGER'S APPOINTMENT , WARNING OF
DANGERS AHEAD, BUT GENERALLY ASSURING PUBLIC THAT DRAMA-
TIC CHANGES WILL NOT OCCUR. CHUNG KUO SHIH PAO TOOK MOST
POSITIVE EDITORIAL STANCE, POINTING OUT THAT DR. KISSINGER'S
STATEMENTS BEFORE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE DIS-
PET CURRENT TAIPEI RUMORS THAT "SPECIAL MISSION" WILL BE
UNDERTAKEN ON FORTHCOMING PEKING TRIP, AND THAT NEWLY
FORMED COUNCIL ON US-ROC RELATIONS IS PREPARATORY MOVE
FOR RECOGNITION SWITCH. PAPER WARNS AGAINST "INAPPROPRIATE
SUSPICION OF FRIENDLY COUNTRY" NOTING THAT US-ROC RELATIONS
STILL IN US INTEREST. EDITORIAL ALSO NOTES THAT ONLY
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"QUESTIONABLE" KISSINGER STATEMENT IS THAT PEKING NOT EAGER

TO SETTLE TAIWAN ISSUE. PAPER CONTENDED THAT WITH PRC INTENSIFYING THEIR EFFORTS TO SETTLE TAIWAN ISSUE, "ONLY WAY OPEN TO US" IS "NOT TO RELAX EFFORT TO MAKE OURSELVES INDEPENDENT AND STRONG."

2. TA HUA WAN PAO COMMENTED THAT DRAMATIC US POLICY CHANGES ALREADY PAST HISTORY. EDITORIAL PREDICTED THAT AS SECRETARY, DR. KISSINGER WILL "MAINTAIN A MORE PRUDENT ATTITUDE" IN HANDLING RELATIONS WITH PRC AND USSR.

3. PESSIMISTIC NOTE WAS STRUCK BY TZU LI WAN PAO, A PAPER WHICH OCCASIONALLY HAS BEEN BOLD ENOUGH TO REFLECT DIFFERING TAIWANESE COMMUNITY ATTITUDES. PAPER COMMENTED THAT DR. KISSINGER DOES NOT COMFORT EITHER IN "JUSTICE" IN INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS NOR IN ANTI-COMMUNISM AS MATTER OF PRINCIPLE. "SINCE GAP BETWEEN US AND HIM IS SO HUGE, OUR FUTURE DIPLOMATIC OPERATIONS ARE BOUND TO BE EVEN MORE DIFFICULT THAN BEFORE."

4. COMMENT: TZU LI WAN PAO EDITORIAL (POUCHED SEPARATELY) LIKELY TO REFLECT POPULAR ATTITUDES MORE CLOSELY THAN OTHER PAPERS, WHICH HAVE GENERALLY ATTEMPTED, AS DID LIEN HO PAO (REFTEL) TO REASSURE PUBLIC. GLEYSTEN

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